Monday, March 5, 1951 Bruce Diaries (Duplicates) E

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EXCISE

FOUR POWER CONFERENCE

First Day

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Gromyko looks to be between 45 and 50, black hair, black rimmed glasses, furry black eyebrows, general appearance of a contented, alert businessman. Other two chief delegates, one bald, one blond with nothing to distinguish them in looks from tens of thousands of average citizens in any occidental country. A young interpreter, nervous, his English good but far from perfect B1, ED

Pavlov, the Soviet Ambassador, is another breed of cat. Probably no one would mistake him for anything except a Russian. He has a fine head, luxuriant moustaches and an abundant beard, black, slightly flecked with white. B1 ED

he is a fine figure of a man. Is dressed quietly and neatly like all his colleagues. He wears three miniature ribbons covered i cellophane, which resemble Victorian flowers under glass.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
RELEASED CEC DATE 7-1-81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

After settling procedural problems, namely rotation of chairmen, relationships with the press, and the use of French, English and Russian as the official languages, Mr. Davies opened

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with a statement that the U. K. Government wished an agenda to be agreed upon that would deal with many of the subjects of difference now separating the policies of the four nations. All profess a desire for peace through peaceful negotiations. A deterioration in relationship between the four powers has driven HMG, which has no aggressive intentions whatever, to take necessary defensive precautions.

The U. K. welcomes a Foreign Ministers' meeting to ascertain causes of tension and attempt to resolve them. Fear of a Third World War coming as a result of Soviet aggression is diverting national resources from productive uses, and the composition of armed forces is larger than ever before in peace time. Also threat of war comes from domination of certain countries by others, and the imposition of political systems of large countries on small ones. Not our task here to examine these causes of tension but to make sure that agenda includes such topics so that Foreign Ministers can discuss them. In our view German problem is not the only one that contributes to this unhappy situation, but is merely an item and perhaps not even the

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principal issue, which demands close scrutiny. Suggests on behalf of U.S., U.K. and France as first topic on agenda the examination of existing causes of tension in Europe between Soviet Union and the other three powers, and how they can be corrected. If this can be disposed of, the second subject for consideration would be the completion of treaty for the reestablishment of an independent and democratic Austria. Third point is the problem of Germany, including restoration of unity of Germany and the preparation of a peace treaty. Davies closed by saying he supposed Soviet Delegation by its presence here was ready to agree to an agenda of this kind. Will circulate text of proposed agenda.

Gromyko asked recess for ten minutes to study text.

Conference resumed after tea at 6:10 p.m.

GROMYKO:

Task of conference determined when the four Governments exchanged notes. The Soviet Government will have proposition to make. Question of remilitarization of Germany is especially of capital importance for peace and diminution of international

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tension. Mr. Davies spoke of the non-aggressive intentions of Great Britain but said nothing to substantiate this assertion. Since he has mentioned some considerations bearing upon international affairs it is the duty of the Soviet delegation to comment upon his remarks. Argument about fear of new war being due to Soviet aggressive preparations has already been unmasked by Soviet Government. This argument is meant to cover up armaments race now engaged in by U.S., U.K. and France, which cannot be denied by anyone. Are these armaments being established for purposes of peace? I do not agree with statement that U.K. harbors no bellicose intentions. In view of this program, including remilitarization of Western Europe, it is difficult to believe [redacted] a peaceful use of these weapons is contemplated. Will reserve right to discuss insinuations about Soviet aggressive policies. Lot of talk from dead-pan face about remilitarization and demilitarization of Germany, observance of Potsdam agreement, etc. Does not believe [redacted] discussion of this question excludes that of other subjects. Makes concrete proposal:

1. Fulfillment of Potsdam agreement regarding demilitarization

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of Germany.

2. Acceleration of German peace treaty and consequent withdrawal occupation forces.

3. Amelioration of situation in Europe and immediate reduction of armed forces of four powers.

In accordance with Potsdam accords the Four Powers undertook to demilitarize Germany and make it a peaceful, democratic state. It is a duty to implement this undertaking which affects the interests of other European states, including the Germans themselves. Five years have passed and little has been done.

Re point 3, the Soviet Government has put forward in U.N. proposals for the reduction of armed forces. These proposals have been systematically rejected by the three Western Powers.

Matter of priority of items on agenda can be settled later. German question as the most important should occupy first place.

Dulles:

It is now 7 o'clock but I would like to ask Mr. Gromyko one question. How about Austria?

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